

2013-15 BIENNIAL BUDGET UPDATE

AS PROPOSED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEES

April 11, 2013



The Senate and House budget committees recently released their proposed Operating, Capital, and Transportation budgets for the 2013-15 biennium.

Below is a summary of the proposed budgets relative to WSDA that will be discussed over the coming weeks as the Legislature and Governor Inslee work to adopt a final biennial budget.

SENATE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET:

- Projects a total **Operating Budget** of \$152 million.
- **Administrative reductions:** (-\$916,000) Reduces general fund-state to reflect administrative efficiencies and other actions that agencies will take to lower costs.
- **Domestic Marketing:** (+\$250,000) Adds funding to support the Farm-to-School and the Small Farms and Direct Marketing programs (General Fund-State).
- **Animal Disease Traceability:** (+\$275,000) Adds funding for the implementation of the animal disease traceability program (Agricultural Local Fund-Non Appropriated).
- **Agricultural Fairs:** Maintains state funding for county, area, and youth fairs at \$4 million for the biennium (Fair Account-Non Appropriated).
- **Employee compensation:** Restores the three percent pay reduction for all state employees earning more than \$2,500 per month and provides for a new "Step M" for classified employees who have been at their top step for at least six years (General Fund-State and other).

The proposed **Senate Capital Budget** includes \$881,000 to support animal disease traceability activities. The proposed **Senate Transportation Budget** includes \$1.2 million in continued funding for WSDA's Motor Fuel Quality program, from the Motor Vehicle Account.

HOUSE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

- Projects a total **Operating Budget** of \$153 million.
- **Agricultural Fairs:** (-\$1,000,000) Reduces state support for county, area, and youth fairs from \$4 million to \$3 million for the biennium (Fair Account-Non Appropriated).
- **Domestic Marketing:** (+\$250,000) Adds funding to support the Farm-to-School and the Small Farms and Direct Marketing programs (General Fund-State).
- **Employee compensation:** Restores the three percent pay reduction for all state employees earning more than \$2,500 per month and provides for a new "Step M" for classified employees who have been at their top step for at least six years (General Fund-State and other).

The proposed **House Capital Budget** includes \$1 million for health and safety projects at county fairs. The proposed **House Transportation Budget** includes \$1.2 million in continued funding for WSDA's Motor Fuel Quality program, from the Motor Vehicle Account.

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